

Message Text

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PAGE 01 NEW DE 04626 250839Z
ACTION OES-07

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 ACDA-12 CIAE-00 INR-10 IO-14
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 EB-08 NRC-07 SOE-02 DODE-00
DOE-15 SS-15 SP-02 CEQ-01 PA-02 /114 W
-----129277 250842Z /13

P R 250701Z MAR 78
FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 436
INFO AMCONSUL BOMBAY
AMCONSUL CALCUTTA
AMCONSUL MADRAS

UNCLAS NEW DELHI 4626

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: TECH IN US
SUBJECT: SAMACHAR REPORT FROM WASHINGTON ON TARAPUR

1. FOLLOWING IS A SAMACHAR REPORT FROM WASHINGTON ON
TARAPUR URANIUM SUPPLY WHICH WAS CARRIED (EITHER INFULL OR
SLIGHTLY ABBREVIATED VERSION) IN MOST NEW DELHI PAPERS
MARCH 25.

2. BEGIN TEXT. OFFICIALS AT THE STATE DEPARTMENT EXPECT
A "VERY EARLY DECISION" BY THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
ON GIVING ITS CLEARANCE TO THE OVERDUE SHIPMENT OF 7.6 TONES
OF ENRICHED URANIUM TO THE TARAPUR POWER PLANT.

ACCORDING TO THEM, THE COMMISSION COULD ACT WITHIN
THE NEXT FEW DAYS.

THE US OFFICIAL "OPTIMISM" FOLLOWS CONSULTATIONS
HELD RECENTLY BY THE COMMISSION WITH ITS OFFICIALS ON
THE INDIAN CASE. THE US PRESIDENT, MR. JIMMY CARTER,
HAS ALREADY RECOMMENDED THE SUPPLY FOR TARAPUR AND THE
STATE DEPARTMENT HAS SENT A COMMUNICATION TO THE
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COMMISSION.

THE STAFF COMMITTEE AT THE COMMISSION HAS RECOMMENDED
THAT THE COMMISSION NEED NOT ENTERTAIN THE DEMAND OF
ENVIRONMENTALIST GROUPS FOR A PUBLIC HEARING BEFORE
CLEARANCE OF THE URANIUM SHIPMENT.

THE STAFF COMMITTEE HAS ADVISED THE COMMISSION THAT FUTURE SHIPMENTS MAY ALSO BE ALLOWED WITHOUT PUBLIC HEARINGS BUT THAT THE COMMISSION COULD HOLD DISCUSSIONS SEPARATELY ON THE GENERAL ISSUES OF SAFEGUARDS AND THEIR FULFILMENT BY INDIA.

THE COMMITTEE TAKES THE VIEW THAT THE NUCLEAR REGULATION ACT HAVING ALREADY BEEN PASSED AND BECOME LAW, NATIONS RECEIVING THE NUCLEAR MATERAILS ARE ON NOTICE THAT SUPPLIES WILL BE STOPPED IN 18 MONTHS IF THEY DO NOT ACCEPT FULL SAFEGUARDS LAID DOWN BY THE ACT AND THAT SUPPLIES DUE DURING THIS PERIOD NEED NOT BE WITHHELD BY THE COMMISSION. OF THE FOUR MEMBERS OF THE COMMISSION, ONE IS ABROAD AND ANOTHER IS SICK. AS SOON AS THE FULL COMMISSION ASSEMBLES, IT IS EXPECTED TO TAKE A DECISION ON THE SHIPMENT TO INDIA. END TEXT.
GOHEEN

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Message Attributes

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